



Focus

Pre-Arrival Checks

For safer waters

A comprehensive system of **pre-arrival checks and tests** is essential for the safe operation of vessels leaving the open ocean and entering more restrictive coastal waters.

Washington State recommends a series of tests and/or inspections before a vessel enters or operates in state waters. The U.S. Coast Guard has a similar “standard of care” dealing with pre-arrival tests/inspections. (See Web site: www.marineexchange.com/standardofcare.html) Many companies use a checklist covering all the tests and inspections listed.

A sample checklist is provided on the reverse side of this Focus sheet. This is for vessel use or it can be used as a guideline for creating internal checklists.

Background information

- The recommended pre-arrival checks for **cargo and passenger vessels** were developed with assistance from the Cargo and Passenger Vessel Inspection Advisory Council and are based on recognized industry standards.
- **Dry cargo, tanker and passenger vessel** operators are strongly encouraged to conduct pre-arrival checks on critical systems (listed on the reverse) before entering or operating in Washington waters. Federal law requires operators to confirm the operation of steering systems, electrical power systems, and vessel alarms before entering or operating in United States waters.

For more information

Spill Prevention, Preparedness, and Response Program
Olympia Office (360) 407-7455 Fax (360) 407-7288
Puget Sound Field Office (206) 389-2431 Fax (206) 587-5195
Columbia River Field Office (503) 229-6103 Fax (503) 229-6954

If you have special accommodation needs, contact Mariann Cook Andrews at (360) 407-7211 (voice) or (360) 407-6006 (TDD).

PRE-ARRIVAL TESTS & INSPECTIONS CHECKLIST	
	1. Check all navigation equipment. Log and post errors.
	2. Test/inspect stand-by and emergency generators and switching gear.
	3. Test/inspect all steering systems.
	4. Test main engines ahead and astern.
	5. Test/inspect all lubrication oil pumps.
	6. Test/inspect all fuel oil pumps.
	7. Clear, clean, and purge all fuel oil and lubrication oil system strainers.
	8. Fill main engine settler and service tanks to capacity.
Motor Only	
	9. Test/inspect intake air blowers.
	10. Test/inspect cooling water circulating pumps.
	11. Fill starting and control air tanks.
	12. Test/inspect air compressors.
	13. Align and drain starting air-piping system.
Steam only	
	14. Test/inspect forced draft fans.
	15. Prepare spare boiler burners for immediate use.
	16. Test/inspect feed water pumps.
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